

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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Howard County Ellicott City Sidewalks and Streetscape, Ho. Co. 27-20

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Good evening and thank you all for your time tonight. My name is Robert Hollenbeck, here tonight on behalf of the Department of Public Works. I serve as the Project Manager for most of DPW's efforts on Lower Main Street. I thank you all for your consideration of this bill for sidewalks and streetscape in Ellicott City.

As you all know, Ellicott City was ravaged by flash flooding events in 2016 and 2018. The rapid influx and exodus of water left our town's sidewalks and streetscape in disrepair. Temporary repairs were put in place, and the current conditions are a hodgepodge of materials in need of permanent upgrades.

We've been working collectively in an open process with our partners at the Department of Planning and Zoning to determine the most appropriate long-term solution for implementation. We've undertaken a Master Plan process, engaging the community and a consultant team of subject matter experts. The consultant team has evaluated a variety of materials and approaches. This process recently completed a public input process. As the plan is further developed and finalized, our project will incorporate its recommendations into our product.

We are requesting this \$250,000 to assist us with implementation of streetscape and sidewalk throughout Historic Ellicott City, from the Baltimore County line to Kline Avenue in the West End. This work in totality is estimated to cost in excess of \$1,000,000; and this will greatly assist us by funding a significant portion of the efforts. This will leave a more resilient, safe, accessible and aesthetically appropriate long-term pedestrian conveyance system in place.

Again, I thank you for your time this evening.